

Please add the following new Claims 30 and 31:

and -X- 17
30. (New) The method of Claim 22, wherein the step of associating is performed in response to the step of scanning.

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31. (New) The method of Claim 30, wherein the step of associating is performed with no user intervention.

REMARKS

Applicants' have carefully reviewed the Office Action dated April 18, 2001. Applicants have amended Claims 22 and 29 to place them in full compliance with 35 U.S.C. Sec. 112, second paragraph and have added new Claims 30 and 31. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Regarding the nonstatutory double patenting rejections of Claims 22–29, provisionally over the pending claims of copending Application No. 09/151,471, and also over the issued U.S. Pat. No. 6,098,106, a Terminal Disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. Sec. 1.321(c) is submitted herewith for each double patenting rejection.

Regarding Claim 22 rejected under 35 U.S.C. Sec. 102(e) as being anticipated by *Hudetz, et al.*, this rejection is respectfully traversed as follows. Despite the teachings in the cited passages of the reference it will be shown that neither the second step ("associating a unique scan ID code

with the scanning operation . . .” (*emphasis added*) nor the third step (“assembling a packet . . .”) as recited in Applicants’ Claim 22 are disclosed in the reference. First, in the reference, the link to the database (60) is established *before* the scanning step is performed. Therefore the “predetermined address of the database” mentioned by the Examiner is *not* associated *with* the scanning while the scanning is performed and the reference disclosure cannot be said to teach the “associating” step as recited in Claim 22. See Col. 7, lines 48–51 and also Col. 8, lines 29–33 which describes the operation of Fig. 5 of the reference.

Second, the reference does not teach the step of “assembling a packet of information . . . to provide a routing packet;” rather, in the reference at the cited passage, a user enters a UPC (46) in response to the display of a query page. Upon entry of the UPC (46), it is transmitted to the database (60) (over a link established *before* the display of the query page and *before* the entry of the UPC) which then looks up records associated with this particular UPC. See Col. 7, lines 48–57 and Col. 8, lines 21–46. Therefore, nothing in the cited passage discloses the third step of the Applicants’ Claim 22 as recited.

Moreover, by not performing the “associating” and “assembling” steps, the reference is unable to perform the fourth step of the Applicants’ Claim 22 of “connecting to the remote information source location utilizing the routing packet and in response to the step of scanning, wherein the routing packet is representative of the location of the remote information source location . . .” The reference does not anticipate the invention of Claim 22 because the reference teaches a method substantially different from Applicants’ Claim 22. Applicants therefore respectfully request

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Serial No. 09/496,222

PHLY-24,583

the withdrawal of this rejection. Similarly, Claim 24 which depends from a base claim now shown to be allowable is likewise allowable.

Regarding Claims 23, 28 and 29, rejected under 35 U.S.C. Sec. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Hudetz, et al.* in view of *Citron, et al.* (U.S. Pat No. 5,288,976), this rejection is respectfully traversed as follows. Each of these Claims 23, 28 and 29 ultimately depend from base Claim 22. The combination of *Hudetz, et al.* and *Citraon, et al.* fails because *Hudetz, et al.* does not anticipate the base Claim 22, for the foregoing reasons.

Applicants have now made an earnest attempt in order to place this case in condition for allowance. For the reasons stated above, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of the claims as amended. Please charge any additional fees or deficiencies in fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-0780/PHLY-24,583 of HOWISON, CHAUZA, THOMA, HANDLEY & ARNOTT, L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE
Serial No. 09/496,222
PHLY-24,583



VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

22. (Amended) A method for obtaining information regarding [the] a source of a product from a remote information source location on a global communication network utilizing a product code associated with the product and unique thereto, comprising the steps of:

scanning the product code associated with the product with a scanner at a user location on the global communication network to extract the information contained in the unique product code therefrom;

associating a unique scan ID code with the scanning operation;

assembling a packet of information comprised of the extracted product code and the unique scan ID code to provide a routing packet; and

connecting to the remote information source location utilizing the routing packet and in response to the step of scanning, wherein the routing packet is representative of the location of the remote information source location on the global communication network through an association with a routing table.

29. (Amended) The method Claim 28, wherein the step of scanning with the provided scanner comprises the step of decoding information in the product code, which product is encoded in [the] a first format to output a value that can be assembled with the unique scan ID code in the routing packet.

30. (New) The method of Claim 22, wherein the step of associating is performed in response to the step of scanning.

31. (New) The method of Claim 30, wherein the step of associating is performed with no user intervention.